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figured in Part II. of the Museum Catalogue (see p. 385, fig. 283), and four casts of other celts, of flint, stone, and bronze, all of which were found in Brittany, and have been described in the "Archæologia Cambrensis" for June, 1860.

Casts of these were presented to the Museum in April, 1862, by the Rev. Mr. Barnwell. See "Proceedings," vol. viii., p. 153.

From Henry Cusack, Esq., an ancient bronze pot.

From Mr. F. Robinson, a specimen of a three-guinea note (£3 8*s*. 3*d*.), issued at Ross, county of Wexford, in 1811.

I also beg to exhibit to the meeting the Gahr Barry, or short crozier of St. Breagh, which I have lately procured for the Academy through the Government, under the treasure trove regulation. Although not much ornamented, it is in a state of great perfection, never having been lost, but handed down through the O'Hanlys, of Sliabh Bawn, in the county of Roscommon, the hereditary herenachs of St. Barry, the ruins of whose church at Termon Barry, on the Shannon, near Lanesborough, still exists.—See Annals of the Four Masters, under A. D. 1238.

The St. Berach or Barry to whom this ecclesiastical staff or crozier is said to have belonged, lived in 580 A. D. It is complete at both ends; is only 29 inches long. The staff is, as in all such cases, of yew, coated over with brass; but it wants the crest which surmounted the convexity of the crook. Much interest attached to this relic in former days, from its being used to swear upon; and it was sent for from great distances for this purpose in cases of stolen goods, or defamation, &c. I beg to present to the Academy the box in which it has lain for many years.

I also exhibit the most perfect square Irish bell of which we have got any notice, and which has just been procured, under the treasure trove regulations, from the neighbourhood of Dungannon, county of Tyrone.

The thanks of the Academy were unanimously voted to the respective donors—namely, the Commissioners of Public Works; Lord Farnham; Andrew Armstrong, Esq.; Mons. R. S. Le Men; F. Robinson, Esq.; and Henry Cusack, Esq.

W. H. Hardinge, Esq., read a paper on the

APPLICATION OF PHOTOZINCOGRAPHY TO THE PRODUCTION OF ILLUSTRATIONS OF MANUSCRIPTS.

The author adverted, as suggestive of the idea, to his narrative of the Civil, Gross, and Down Surveys recently read before the Academy, and ordered by Council to be published in the "Transactions."

He exhibited photographs, executed at the Irish Branch of the Ordnance Survey Establishment in the Phœnix Park, of a Down Survey Barony Map of Leyney, in the county Sligo; and of a Soldier's Map of lands in the county Tipperary, allotted in 1656 to Colonel Henry Prettie, ancestor of the Dunally family, for military services rendered by him in this country.

He observed that the original maps, although on varying scales of 320 and 160 perches to the surface square inch, were by the photographic process, at will and without the necessity of any calculating medium, reduced to a size suitable for illustrating his paper in the "Transactions;" that the scales of the reductions cannot be represented in the usual way by numbers; that the paramount advantage of the photographic over all other methods of reduction is the ready facility it possesses of representing the original picture on any prescribed area, and that the accuracy with which that operation is performed far exceeds all other known methods, and amounts to perfection.

He further observed, that these photographs may be zincographed to any number; and that he hoped that, as the subject in reference to the publication of his MS. mapped townland survey narrative is, by an understanding between the Council of the Academy and himself, soon to be submitted to the Treasury for publication as a public document of much interest and value, the propriety and utility of illustrating the narrative with these photozincographed maps will be admitted; and that the Lords of the Treasury will authorize Colonel Sir Henry James, who so kindly supplied the photographic specimens exhibited to the Academy, to complete the requisite number for that purpose—a result that would be alike beneficial to science, literature, and the public service.

The following letter, addressed to the President, by Sir W. R. HAMILTON, was read:—

Observatory, April 27, 1863.

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,—I have been wishing for your permission to report, through you, to the Royal Irish Academy, some of the results to which I have lately arrived, while extending the applications of Quaternions, in connexion with my forthcoming *Elements*.

I. One set of such results relates to those *gauche curves of the third degree*, which appear to have been first discovered, described, and to some extent applied, by Professor Möbius, in the *Barycentric Calculus* (1827), and afterwards independently by M. Chasles, in a Note to his *Aperçu Historique* (1837); and for which our countryman, Dr. Salmon, who has done so much for the Classification of Curves in Space, has proposed the short but expressive name of *Twisted Cubics*.

II. A particular curve of that class presented itself to me in an investigation more than ten years ago, and some account of it was given in my *Lectures*, and (I think) to the Academy also, in connexion with the problem of *Inscription of Polygons* in surfaces of the second order. I gave its vector equation, which was short, but was not sufficiently *general*, to represent *all* curves in space of the third degree: nor had I, at the time, any aim at such representation. But I have lately